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CANADA.

Smallpox in province of Quebec.

MONTREAL, April 21, 1899.

SIR: The province is clear of smallpox since April 5. Final result is as follows:

Municipality.	County.	Population.	Date of outbreak.	New cases since last report. (a)	Total cases since outbreak.	Died.	Recovered.	Still sick.	Houses infected since outbreak.	Houses still infected (b).
Coteau du Lac	Soulanges.....	1,276	Dec. 10	0	5	0	5	0	1	0
Coteau Landing.....	do	507	Dec. 29	0	1	1		0	1	0
St. Telephore.....	do	1,307	Jan. 12	0	7		7	0	1	0
Waltham and Bryson.....	Pontiac.....	361	Feb. 13	0	1		1	0	1	

a Last case occurred February 13; date of last report, March 25.

b Last house disinfected on April 5.

Respectfully, yours,
Secretary Board of Health of the Province of Quebec.

ELZÉAR PELLETIER,

COLOMBIA.

Sanitary report from Bocas del Toro—Description of the city.

BOCAS DEL TORO, April 10, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit report for the week ended Saturday, April 8, 1899.

The following vessels have cleared for the United States during the week: Steamship *Colombia*, Berg, master, 511 tons, 17 crew, for Mobile; steamship *Baracoa*, Wolden, master, 484 tons, 17 crew, for Mobile; steamship *Iberia*, Jacobsen, master, 302 tons, 15 crew, for Galveston. All these vessels were in good sanitary condition and supplied with certificates.

The health of Bocas del Toro and of the adjacent country is good. There are few if any cases of sickness in the town at present. Local physicians assure me that for some time past the town and country have enjoyed an unusual freedom from malarial fever and enteric troubles, the most common disorders of the country.

Bocas del Toro lies on a point of land on the southeastern extremity of Columbus Island, a member of a group which lies about the entrance to the Chiriqui Lagoon. The island is separated from the mainland on the west by a body of water leading into Almirante Bay. To the east lies Provision Island, there being a small island between the two called Careening Cay. The entrance to the harbor, which affords good anchorage to vessels of large draft, runs between Careening Cay and Provision Island. The town following the shore line is built on the water's edge, and faces the north and east, being exposed to the full sweep of the prevailing northeast wind. The principal houses are built directly over the water. The ground behind the town is low and swampy and often flooded by the tide. There is a tide of 2½ feet, which runs with a strong current every twenty-four hours. Sewage and offal from the houses on the water front goes directly into the water; the excreta and garbage

from the houses removed from the water's edge is deposited in vessels and at night dumped into the bay.

The population consists largely of Jamaica negroes, and a mixture of native and negro who live with little regard to cleanliness and personal hygiene. The foreign residents are quite numerous, and are being added to every year.

Steamers engaged in the fruit trade arriving from the United States after discharging their cargo proceed to the Chiriqui Lagoon, along the border of which the banana plantations are located, to take on fruit—from thirty-six to forty-eight hours being consumed in the trip. From 35 to 45 men, including laborers, checkers, and a clerk are taken aboard for loading purposes. A customs officer also accompanies the ship. These ships are inspected by me on their arrival from the United States, just previous to the departure for the lagoon, and on the return from the lagoon just before final departure. This last inspection must, in some instances, be made at night, according to the time the ship arrives from the lagoon, in order not to delay the fruit.

Fumigation of laborers and passengers is done with formaldehyd gas, six hours' exposure. The New Orleans houses have furnished for the use of the sanitary inspector of the Louisiana State board of health a Trillat autoclave. The other firms are provided with the Schering & Glatz generator with formalin pastiles. I shall endeavor to bring about an agreement between all parties engaged in the steamer traffic to have all fumigation or disinfection done with the autoclave.

Very respectfully,

H. B. MOHR,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Copy of certificate given vessel.

[Inclosure No 1.]

BOCAS DEL TORO, REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA, *April 12, 1899.*

This is to certify, that I have examined the steamship *Kitty*, ——— Olsen, master, which arrived from Mobile, Ala., at Bocas del Toro April 7, 1899. Her crew consists of 18 men, including the master, and all are now in good health. Said steamship is now in good sanitary condition. She has 1 passenger now on board for Mobile and all are now in good health. She has now on board for transportation to Mobile a cargo consisting of bananas in good sanitary condition.

After careful observation and inquiry, I believe, and so certify, that said steamship *Kitty*, her officers and crew, have complied with all the rules for the government of vessels while at fruit ports, of the United States Marine-Hospital Service. I further certify that the health of Bocas del Toro and the adjacent country is good and that no infectious or contagious disease prevails here.

H. B. MOHR,

Acting Assistant Surgeon U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

BOCAS DEL TORO, REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA, *April 12, 1899.*

This is to certify that Mrs. Kate Hines leaves this port as a passenger on the Norwegian steamship *Kitty*, Olsen, master, which sails this day for Mobile. Said Mrs. Kate Hines has been under my observation for ten days, is now in good health, and her baggage has been disinfected under my supervision. Her ultimate destination in the United States is Olivet, Mich.

H. B. MOHR,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.